[27th March 1929

(b) whether it is a fact that in protest against the action of the president in not calling for a meeting, 21 members out of 40 sent a written requisition for convening a meeting and, in consequence of the failure of the president to comply with their request, convened two meetings on their own initiative ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the president of the union attended both those meetings but for a short time ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the president of the said union is still employing in service a dismissed supervisor and whether the dismissed supervisor is closely related to him ;

(e) whether it is a fact that a deputation consisting of the members of the said union waited on the Registrar of Co-operative Societies at Madura and requested him to give the union another president ; and

(f) what steps have been taken to enquire into the grievances of the members and to improve the affairs of the Nilakkottai Co-operative Union ?

A.—(a) Differences arose among the members of the governing body elected at the general body meeting held on 13th November 1927 after a period of six months.

(b) A requisition from 21 members calling for a meeting was sent to the governing body which met on 11th May 1928 and out of six members present at that meeting three insisted on convening a meeting while the other three opposed them. No decision was reached but the meeting was not summoned, and the three members who were for convening a meeting sent out notices calling for a general meeting and held a meeting on 27th May 1928. A second meeting was again convened by them on the same date and hour, viz., 9th September 1928, when a general meeting was convened by the regular governing body at the instance of the Assistant Registrar who had been present to effect a compromise.

(c) No information is available on this point.

(d) The supervisor was removed from service by the governing body of the union on 3rd September 1927 and on appeal the general body reinstated him at their meeting held on 13th November 1927. The supervisor is related to the president.

(e) The deputation was to have met the Registrar at Madura but did not do so. The Registrar arranged to meet the union and went to Nilakkottai but on account of Dipavali no members of the governing body appeared.

(f) The Assistant Registrar settled the dispute and has given a decision under rule XIV of the rules which, however, is questioned. The Deputy Registrar is enquiring into the matter and the Registrar hopes to meet them and settle the question.

Representation of Muslims in the Co-operative department.

* 1991 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 65 senior inspectors and 460 junior inspectors in the Co-operative department there are only 3 and 14 Muslims respectively who hold such appointments ;

27th March 1929]

(b) whether it is a fact that out of 88 clerks there is hardly one Muslim even in this lowest cadre in the Co-operative department; and

(c) the reasons why there is such disparity in the proportion of Muslims in the Co-operative department?

A.—(a) The Government observe from the establishment list corrected up to 30th June 1928 that the facts are as stated except that there are 15 Muhammadan junior inspectors.

(b) There are three Muhammadan routine clerks.

(c) The Government have called for a report.

Alleged discouragement to Muslim co-operative societies.

*1992 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have laid down any policy prohibiting or discouraging separate co-operative societies being started for Muslims;

(b) whether it is a fact that the district central banks have refused to finance purely Muslim banks;

(c) if so, which are the central banks that would not finance Muslim banks and why; and

(d) whether it is a fact that purely Christian banks are financed by the district central banks?

A.—(a) No.

(b) It is not a fact.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Government have no information.

Number and location of land mortgage banks in the Presidency.

*1993 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. Swami: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the number of land mortgage banks in the province;

(b) where they are situated;

(c) the capital of each; and

(d) the interest per cent charged last year on loans advanced to them?

A.—(a) to (c) A statement [a] furnishing the information is appended.

(d) Land mortgage banks obtain money principally by floating debentures. The public are allowed interest at 7 per cent on these debentures while the rate payable to Government is 6½ per cent.

Mr. K. V. R. Swami:—"May I know whether the Government would try to find out whether they cannot lend money at a lesser rate of interest?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"The question will be considered, Sir."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao:—"May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will consider the question of not insisting upon a high percentage on the debentures?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"I think it will have to be considered after the formation of the Central Land Mortgage Bank."

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 1043-1044 infra.